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October 14, 2009

Charles L.A. Terreni
Chief Clerk and Administrator
Public Service Commission of South Carolina
Post Office Drawer 11649
Columbia, South Carolina

RE: State Universal Support of Basic Local Service Included in a
Bundled Service Offering or Contract Offering
Docket No. 2009-326-C

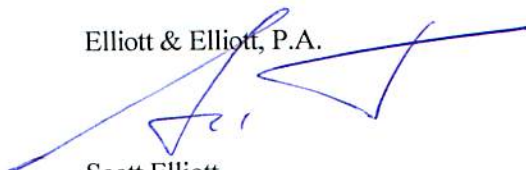
Dear Mr. Terreni:

This letter is written by United Telephone Company of the Carolinas, LLC d/b/a CenturyLink f/n/a Embarq (CenturyLink) in response to Mr. Frank Ellerbe's October 14, 2009 letter and in support of the Joint Motion filed by the South Carolina Telephone Coalition (SCTC) and the Office of Regulatory Staff (ORS) on October 12, 2009. The Joint Motion requests the full Commission to overrule the Hearing Officer's directive to the ORS to furnish certain proprietary and confidential information provided by carriers of last resort to the ORS in its role as administrator of the state USF. CenturyLink is one of the carriers that files these reports with the ORS and whose proprietary and confidential information is required to be furnished under the Hearing Officer's directive.

The information in question is already protected from disclosure by Commission Order Nos. 2005-139 (relating to SCTC companies) and 2005-185 (relating to other companies, including CenturyLink). These orders allow the information to be disclosed in aggregate form, but protect from disclosure the competitively sensitive, confidential and proprietary information related to individual carriers. CenturyLink supports the relief requested in the Joint Motion and asks the Commission to continue to protect individual company information (including CenturyLink's information) from disclosure and not allow this protection to be circumvented through the discovery process.

Sincerely,

Elliott & Elliott, P.A.



Scott Elliott
Susan S. Masterton
Counsel for CenturyLink

SE/jcl

cc: Parties of Record

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned employee of Elliott & Elliott, P.A. does hereby certify that she has served below listed parties with a copy of the pleading(s) indicated below by mailing a copy of same to them in the United States mail, by regular mail, with sufficient postage affixed thereto and return address clearly marked on the date indicated below:

RE: State Universal Service Support of Basic Local Service
Included in a Bundler Service Offering or Contract Offering

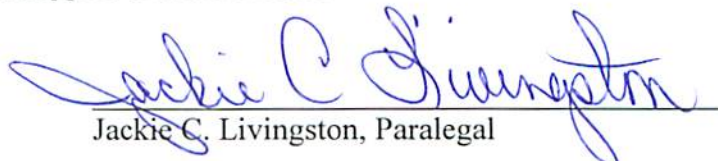
DOCKET NO.: 2009-326-C

PARTIES SERVED:

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Patrick W. Turner BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. 1600 William Street, Ste. 5200 Columbia, SC 29201	

PLEADING: Letter in Support of Joint Motion

October 14, 2009


Jackie C. Livingston, Paralegal